



# May

Bonjour John Wilson Families!

With the beautiful weather upon us, we are seeing more students walking, biking and riding their scooters to school which is fantastic! As we work together to ensure safety for all, we thought this would be a good time to send a few highlights and reminders your way. Did you know that we have over 450 students registered at École John Wilson Elementary School? And with all of the students on iCampus, there are over 1200 students coming and going during the day! Along with these students we also have teachers and support staff, who work together to make our school a safe and caring place for children to gather, learn and play. It is a busy place and the safety of everyone attending our Innisfail School Campus is of the utmost importance! We continually reflect and adjust our processes to help make things even better. Here are a few of the steps that we take at ÉJWES to address this:

**Bike Racks:** We have many bike racks available for our students to use. Please remember to send a lock and ensure your child is comfortable using it.

**Scooters:** We now have scooter racks available for student parking! We are moving away from having the scooters brought into the school as we have very little space to keep them and they can end up blocking exit doors in some locations. Please come to the school and take a peek at them (they are on the concrete pad by the bike racks) so you can teach your child how to use a lock to keep them safe throughout the day. Thanks in advance for your support as we make this transition to outside parking!

**Supervision:** Before school outside supervision begins at 8:20am and we have staff stationed at designated spots with high traffic areas (bus loop, cement pads, exit doors and parent drop off loop). After school supervision goes until 3:15pm and we have supervisors in the same designated areas. Please avoid having your child(ren) arrive too early as there will not be supervision prior to 8:20am. We also have an adult at the cross-walk in the parent drop off loop both before and after school to help students and their adults get across safely.

Our recesses during the school day are supervised by staff assigned to specific zones throughout the playground area to ensure students can always find someone in a yellow or orange vest to help them out when needed.

**Parent Drop Off/Pick Up:** Please remember that the parent loop is a **drop off/pick up area only** and those using it are asked to remain in their vehicles. Thank you for reserving the designated accessible parking spots for our families that have a placard and need to have these spaces available when they arrive. We do not have supervision on the playground before and after school so we do not have students playing on the equipment during these times.

**Parent Loop During the Day:** Our gates remain closed in this area during the day to allow our children to play safely on the playground areas.

**Bus Loop:** Please avoid using the bus loop for student drop off from 8:00am-8:45am and from 2:30pm until all buses have left the loop at the end of the day. Please also note that we may have late buses arrive in the morning and for the safety of all, we do not want to have other vehicles in the loop while a bus is unloading.

**Parking Lots:** If you need to exit your vehicle please use the parking lot in front of the Innisfail Middle School. Please note that the parking lot and loop on the east side of the schools is for staff only and is not a student drop off/pick up area. You are welcome to park on the streets on the east side of the schools if you are using this area to drop off/pick up.

**Safety and Security Plan:** Our school security plan informs all staff of the procedures to be followed for fire drills, lockdowns, tornado safety, first aid treatment and emergency evacuations. We practice these drills and evacuations at various times throughout each year. Parents will be informed if there is ever a need to use one of our security plans beyond a practice drill. We will have three upcoming spring fire drills and one lockdown drill. Families will receive a letter prior to the lockdown practice.

**Curriculum Content:** The concept of safety is integrated into our school curriculum. For example, in PE students are coached on how to play safely with one another and equipment use. In the Health curriculum, safety is a topic at all grade levels.

**Special Programs:** Every opportunity is taken to provide students with safety education. Safety programs in cooperation our RCMP School Resource Officer (eg. Halloween and bike/street safety) and the Chinook's Edge Transportation Department are just two examples of those who support the community safety of our students.

**Coming Into The School:** please always use our main office doors and stop and check-in at the office so we can help you out from there. For safety reasons, it is very important that we know who is in our building and where any guests are. Thank you for your continued cooperation with this!

We appreciate and want to thank the additional layer of safety and security that comes in the form of the moms, dads, grandparents and relatives who visit our school for drop off and pick up. When it comes to the importance of communities working together for the safety of all, there is no question that we benefit from raising our children in Innisfail! And one last quick note...don't forget to **read, read, read**, for our annual **Read-A-Thon Fundraiser** throughout the month of May!



Yours in Education,  
Angela Warke, Principal

To all of our Moms out there, on behalf of all of us at John Wilson, we hope you had a wonderful Mother's Day with your family! ❤️

